

# All Around Pennsauken



**UPDATE ON  
THIRD QUARTER  
PROPERTY TAX  
GRACE PERIOD**

See Page 24 For Details

VOL. 26, NO. 8

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

August 2021

## National Night Out In Pennsauken Held On August 3



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Pennsauken's first responders are holding a special event during National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 3, an annual community-building campaign that is designed to make neighborhoods a safer, better place to live.

Held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex, 6730 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken's police, fire department, and EMS are joining forces to connect with residents through a variety of activities. Safety vehicles and apparatus will be on display "touch-a-truck" style. There will also be K9 unit demonstrations; brief cornhole matches with officers; food trucks offering free desserts to attendees; the opportunity to meet police chaplains and representatives of their affiliated religious organizations; fun activity stations; and giveaways. In addition, the New Jersey Department of Corrections will be on hand at Pennsauken's National Night Out event, with an information table.

"As we continue to get back to normal,

*continued on page 23*

## Township Committee Makes Ongoing Commitment To Public Safety

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The primary goal of Pennsauken's Township Committee is to provide quality services for its residents. And for the past two years, that has included a strong commitment to public safety.

"The safety of our residents, business owners, and visitors to Pennsauken is vital to the success of our community," explained Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. "Township Committee is committed to supporting our first responders, giving them the resources and tools needed to do their jobs to the best of their abilities."

"We're grateful for the investment that the Township has made to its first responders," added Chief Joe Palumbo, head of

the Pennsauken Township Fire Department and the town's public safety director. "Our police officers, firefighters, and EMTs know that Township Committee and Pennsauken's administration backs our efforts as we work to keep our community safe."

### Pennsauken Police Department

Township Committee has hired 19 new police officers and two Class I information officers, and 14 new vehicles have been purchased to bolster Pennsauken's Police. Capital funds have been used to enhance public safety through ongoing improvements to the Township's camera surveillance system. In addition to installing new cameras in key locations in town, the Pennsauken Police has been combining

existing, independent camera systems onto one platform. This move enables the Township's officers to monitor surveillance cameras directly from their vehicles. Businesses and residents that wish to participate can also share their camera systems with police. Merchantville Borough has joined the Township's camera system; moving forward, this will allow police from both communities to access video feeds throughout the network.

In addition, police officers will soon be hitting the streets with wireless body cameras, which have shown to significantly reduce incidents of force and formal misconduct complaints. Officers will also be carrying less lethal taser devices, which

*continued on page 23*

## Pennsauken Car And Bike Show Returns To Maple Avenue

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

After a year hiatus due to the coronavirus, Pennsauken's annual Car and Bike Show returns on Sunday, Sept. 19. Held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., hundreds of classic cars and bikes will be on display along part of the "Maple Mile," starting at Pinsetter Bar and Bowl, the co-sponsor of the event located at 7111 Maple Ave., and extending towards Union Ave.

"As things continue to open up, we're excited to bring our Car and Bike Show back to Maple Ave.," said Pennsauken Mayor Marco DiBattista. "This is going to be a great event and we look forward to seeing plenty of our residents come out and enjoy this awesome Pennsauken tradition."

There will be 22 judging classes for cars, from Stock Production to 1953 to All New Cars, 2013 to Present, as well as nine judg-



Pennsauken's annual Car and Bike Show returns to Maple Ave. on Sunday, Sept. 19.

ing classes for motorcycles, from Full Dresser to Antique Bikes.

As attendees stroll the show, viewing

the many cars and bikes on display, they can also enjoy a variety of other activities.

*continued on page 23*

# Look! inside

Virtual Meeting About  
Multi-Use Trail Project  
See Page 8

Taste Of Pennsauken/  
Merchantville Returns  
See Page 16

Scrub Daddy Comes  
To Pennsauken  
See Page 21

Police Install Kiosk At Station  
See Page 26

# Plus!

**Mayor's Corner** pg. 3  
**Public Works** pg. 6  
**In Schools** pg. 11  
**Waterlines** pg. 20  
**Food Adventures** pg. 25  
**In Books** pg. 29  
**In Sports** pg. 30  
**Classified** pg. 31

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## Monthly Mini Clean-Ups Scheduled Through October

The Pennsauken Environmental Commission and the Township's Parks and Recreation Department have monthly mini clean-ups scheduled for August through October. Participants (individuals or a team of family members) will be provided with trash bags, a bucket, gloves, and a trash picker. As volunteers will be work-

ing outdoors, please wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

The following are the scheduled clean-ups:

- Aug. 29, 10:00 a.m. Pennsauken Creek, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.
- Sept. 11, 10:00 a.m., "The Pit," 4339 Burwood Ave.
- Oct. 2, 10:00 a.m., Tippin's Pond, 421 Cove Rd.

Registration is required by at least two days prior to event. Once there are enough people, volunteers will be put on a waiting list and called if there is an opening.

If a volunteer feels ill within 24 hours of

the cleanup, comes in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19; is waiting results from a test; or has tested positive for the virus, please let the organizers know and stay home.

To register, please contact Stephanie Laurick at slauricknature@gmail.com or Duke Martz at emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us. Please include your full name, number of people (family) attending, the date/location of the clean-up of interest, and a good phone number and/or email address to contact in case there is a volunteer cancellation, or the event is canceled or moved to another date.

## Petty's Island Cleanup Scheduled For October 9

New Jersey Audubon, in partnership with the Pennsauken Environmental Commission, is hosting a cleanup of Petty's Island on Saturday, Oct. 9, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This cleanup will focus on the shoreline, where marine debris threatens the health of both wildlife and humans.

Petty's Island is privately-owned and undergoing an amazing transformation from

an active marine terminal and oil storage facility into a state park. Access to the island is limited, so don't miss this opportunity to see the island and help in its transformation.

Registration is required to participate. Children must be 12 or older and accompanied by an adult.

To register, visit <https://pifallcleanup21.eventbrite.com>.



### Important Numbers

**Pennsauken Township Municipal Building:**  
(856) 665-1000

Clerk: x122, 123 or 124

Construction: x130, 131, or 132

Code Enforcement: x134, 136, 169 or 171

Economic Development: x108

Housing/Resale/Rental: x145

Mayor's Office: x152 or 155

Parks and Recreation: x151

Planning and Zoning: x128

Senior Services: x125

Tax Assessor: x112 or 116

Tax Collector: x118, 119 or 121

**Pennsauken Country Club:**  
(856) 662-4961

**Pennsauken Free Public Library:**  
(856) 665-5959

**Pennsauken Public Works:** (856) 663-0178

**Public Safety/Emergency Dispatch:** 9-1-1

**Non-Emergency Dispatch:** (856) 663-1234

**EMS:** (856) 665-2323

**Fire Administration:** (856) 663-1208

**Fire Prevention and Inspection Bureau:**  
(856) 665-0774

**Police Department:** (856) 488-0080

**Pennsauken Municipal Court:**  
(856) 663-1403

**Pennsauken Animal Control:**  
(856) 663-3058

**Camden County Animal Shelter:**  
(856) 401-1300

**Pennsauken Sanitary Landfill:**  
(856) 665-8787

**Merchantville-Pennsauken  
Water Commission**  
(856) 663-0043

**Pennsauken Sewerage Authority:**  
(856) 663-5542

**South Jersey Sanitation  
(Trash/Recycling Vendor):**  
(609) 561-0441

**Camden County Board of Social Services:**  
(856) 225-8800

**Camden County Municipal Utility Authority  
(CCMUA):** (856) 541-3700

**New Jersey American Water:**  
(800) 272-1325



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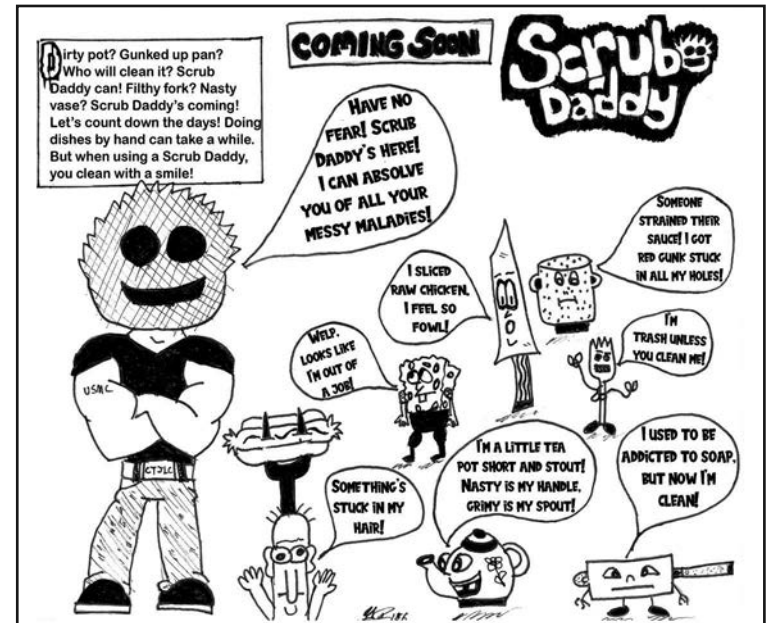
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# MAYOR'S CORNER An Open Letter From Mayor DiBattista To The Residents And Businesses Of Pennsauken



Township Ordinances  
Minimize Pollution  
of Creeks and Rivers  
By Marco DiBattista,  
Mayor of  
Pennsauken Township

Every year, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection asks for the help of municipalities throughout the state to remind residents and businesses of the importance of protecting our waterways from pollution. Township Committee has made a strong commitment to enhancing open, outdoor spaces to our residents. Part of that effort involves keeping our town's creeks and rivers pollution-free. We encourage our residents and business owners to do what they can to make our town as "green" as possible.

In July, we had a lot of storms hit

Pennsauken. When it rains like that, we're all aware of issues like flooded streets and wet basements. But did you know that rainfall can also negatively impact the environment?

According to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, stormwater runoff is the largest source of water pollution impacting our creeks and rivers. Rainwater that flows down storm drains carries with it anything that is dropped, dumped, blown, or swept into the street. Items such as grass, leaves, oil, fertilizers, pet droppings, and all types of trash and litter will eventually be washed down a storm drain and into one of the creeks and rivers throughout the Township.

This year, our Township, in partnership with the Pennsauken Environmental Commission, have hosted mini

clean-ups at places like Tippin's Pond, Meadowbrook Park, and Pennsauken Creek. These efforts go a long way to remove debris around our local bodies of water, as well as to clean up trash that has been washed down the storm inlets.

There are also the pollutants that you don't necessarily see that are both a hazard to the cleanliness of our bodies of water and a danger to the marine life that live there. Pet waste, grass, oil, lawn fertilizer, and chemicals all contribute to the degradation of the water quality.

## How Pennsauken Battles Stormwater Pollution

The Township has adopted several ordinances which are intended to stop pollutants from going down storm drains in our neighborhoods. For example, Pennsauken has had a litter ordinance

on the books for many years. It is illegal to dump or drop litter of any kind on public or private property. Not littering makes sense on so many levels. Not only does it help prevent stormwater pollution, but it also makes our town look a lot better and improves the quality of our neighborhoods.

Since trash creates serious problems when washed down an inlet, an ordinance was adopted that requires dumpsters and other trash containers to be covered at all times. This not only stops trash from blowing into the street, but also helps keep liquids from leaching out and getting washed into the storm sewers. We're reminding our businesses in Pennsauken to keep their dumpsters covered and avoid overfilling them. Again, not only does this help prevent stormwater pollution, but it helps maintain the appearances of busi-

nesses throughout town.

The Township also requires pet owners to clean up after their pet. While there's an ordinance in place, this just makes common sense. Pet waste is to be properly disposed of in the trash. When we take our dog for a walk, we make sure we bring a plastic bag to clean up any "deposits." Dog lovers in Pennsauken can also use the Bow Wow Dog Park at Cooper and Collins avenues. Receptacles are available there to dispose of pet waste.

With all the wildlife that calls Pennsauken home, geese, and the mess they leave behind, continue to be a problem. When washed into a waterway, their droppings are a source of pollution. And we all know that a flock of geese can leave a lot of droppings behind. While it's

*continued on page 22*

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#### Atco - One Floor Living At Its Best!

This spacious rancher is ready for you. Home Features 3 Beds And 2 Baths. Both the front and rear yards are huge with a great view of the river. Have breakfast or coffee on your rear deck and enjoy the serene calm of the water. The unfinished basement will double the square footage or even give you a great space to work on projects with the work bench that is already in place. Asking \$249,900



#### Pennsauken - Stop Paying Rent

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#### Welcome To Medford

Welcome to this nicely appointed home in the Forest Glen Lakes Community, in the vicinity of Shawnee High School. This property is a corner wooded lot approximately .68 acres that backs to the woods. There is a two plus car garage. This home offers 4 bedrooms, two and half baths and a finished basement. Kitchen features newer stainless steel appliances and ceramic tile flooring. There is also a Family Room with a wood burning fireplace and access to the back yard and three tier concrete patio. Asking \$399,992



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## WAGSWORLD A Health Update With Plenty Of Extra Doctor Visits

By Bob Wagner,  
AAP Columnist

"Man plans; God laughs." This has been my all-time favorite expression for many years. And how true it has been lately.

On Father's Day morning, about 2:30 a.m., I woke up for some reason or other. It might have been the difficulty breathing, the numbness in both arms, or I just had to pee. Turns out, it was all three, with a touch of what felt like a truck parked on my chest. I went to the kitchen, chewed up two aspirins, and lay down on the couch for a rest. I thought about writing out a note to the bride and kids but wasn't quite up to looking for pen and paper. After a bit of discussion, the bride and daughter talked me into a ride to Lourdes.

I officially quit smoking at 2:35 on Father's Day morn. It's been a few weeks now, and I'm moving around pretty well.

I have bought at least three doctors new boats. I hope to get invited out fishing soon, but I'm not allowed to cut bait for a few months. Blood thinners and sharp knives do not match up well.

My stint showing off my carvings is ongoing, thanks to the kindness of Nicole Eiland, who set up my display while I stood there, balancing a portable defibrillator on one hip, cup of decaf on the other. My plans to show up on two Saturdays to do some carving on display have not come to be. Maybe this month if my little corner of the shop is still full.

I promised Nicole I would do my wooden flower display, as it goes fast, looks semi-impressive, and I give away a flower for everyone who watches. I'm still hopeful. I am allowed to sit out on a stool and talk, so not much has changed in that regard. My ball and chain, the portable defibrillator, weighs about the same as the loaded .45 I carried for a

year or two in the army. The ends that press against my chest, sides and back are held up with a lovely push up bra. I get to take it off in the morning for a few minutes for showering. After a whole 60 seconds it starts ping-pong and bonging, and rushes to remind me to put it all back on. It is right up there with the Toyota's seat belt reminder, which starts

out loud, then gets louder. Right after I change the battery, and slip it back into my halter, the darn thing gives me a practice shot, just to hurry me along.

So, for now, my loyal readers, I get to visit all the doctors I avoided forever. I can eat anything I want on the heart healthy chart, as long as the food has no sugar or salt. I can start exercising next

week, but at the heart doctor's shop in Cherry Hill. The exercise police and the breathing while you sleep police apparently need a new boat.

It really doesn't bother me all that much. I can't get my outfit wet all summer, anyway.

So, I'm still here, 'til the bride puts the pillow over my mask!

## Local Food Pantries Helping Those In Need

The following is a list of food pantries in Pennsauken and Merchantville that regularly assist local families in need:

- Circle of Hope (food delivered to an individual's home); every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 320-8230
- Gates of Praise, 6345 Wisteria Ave.; every second and fourth Friday, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; (856) 473-5417
- First Presbyterian Church of Merchantville, 10 W. Maple Ave.; Aug. 8 and 22, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.; (856) 662-6252
- Martin Luther Chapel, 4100 Terrace Ave.; every second Wednesday, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; (856) 665-0116
- Mary Queen of All Saints, 4824 Camden Ave.; every Saturday, 10:00 to 11:30

- a.m. (856) 662-2721
- Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd.; every first Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 662-8500
- Saint Matthew's Methodist Church, 1665 Derousse Ave.; every third Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 662-3610
- Serenity Christian Worship Center, 3555 Haddonfield Rd. - Suite B; every third Friday, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and every second Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon; (856) 330-4915
- Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Rt. 130; every fourth Saturday, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.; (856) 663-7783
- World Harvest Christian Center, 7201

Westfield Ave.; every other Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; (856) 389-9191

Volunteers, as well as food and financial donations, are greatly appreciated by these organizations; to do so, please reach out using the contact information provided in this article.

Para obtener esta lista en español, visite [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/local-food-pantries](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/local-food-pantries).

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## PENNSAUKEN AUGUST PUBLIC MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are held on the second floor of the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. (At the corner of Rt. 130 and Merchantville Ave.)

Township Committee  
Aug. 5 and 19, 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
Aug. 4 and 18, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board  
Aug. 3 and 24, 6:30 p.m.



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## EDITOR'S DESK Down The Shore, We Forget To Count The Days

EDITOR'S  
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,  
AAP Editor

Since time immemorial, the Sinatras have bid a fond, yet temporary adieu to the land of milk and honey and headed down the shore in August. For years, my father has regaled us with stories when as a boy, his family packed way too many South Philadelphians into a home where Anglesea and North Wildwood shake hands. Those were the days where the sounds of seagulls were mixed with loud conversations and the occasional, "Kill 'em Sam!" My family—and Cousin Eddie—could tell you more about that one.

Then when I was a kid, we'd all pile into the station wagon and head to a rented duplex at 8th and Surf in North Wildwood. It wasn't a palace by any stretch of the imagination; and to Mom's

chagrin, there was no washer and dryer. But for two weeks every August, it was home. The paneling and color scheme was ripped from 1967. On dark wood paneling, there hung a print of a beach scene that had a saying etched into the frame: "Down the shore, we forget to count the days." It really hit home for me and it's something I've kept with me all these years.

The saying calls me back to the halcyon days of summer. Unburdened by the worries of the world, our only cares were the trek to the beach that seemed to take forever—cue the "Lawrence of Arabia" soundtrack—and making sure our peanut butter and jelly sandwiches on a Kaiser roll weren't ripped from our hands by the always opportunistic gulls. I remember walking the boards for hours; crabbing in the back bay off the side of the road because of that one time

we hit it big there; eating the best rocky road ever at a mom-and-pop ice cream shop after playing miniature golf; being extra nice to Mom after she came back from the laundromat; and watching my Dad "shoot the moon" more than once when we played pinochle.

Fortunately, they're not all memories. I can body surf with the best of them—

and still do. The chipped steak at Russo's Market is still the best I've ever had and is a mandatory meal when I'm down there. It's like God sent angels down to North Wildwood and let them make cheesesteaks. And in an always connected world where phones beep, ding, and chirp every 15 seconds, it is a place where I find some much needed rest and

relaxation.

So later this month, my family will meet up with Mom and Dad, and after a long day at the beach and hitting the waves with the kids, I'll have a Russo's cheesesteak and quite possibly drink them out of Tanqueray. Because down the shore, we forget to count the days.

Have a great rest of your summer.

## Roadwork on Park Avenue To Begin This Month

At the beginning of this month, Camden County is starting a road project along Park Ave. in Pennsauken.

Running from Cove Rd. to Union Ave., the scope of the project includes milling and paving the street, as well as bringing handicap access up to the latest

standards. In addition, there will be new stormwater inlets and piping installed to improve roadway drainage.

Work will take approximately seven months to complete. Residents and commuters should anticipate lane closures and detours during this time.



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## Pennsauken PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,  
Department of Public Works

A friend of mine offered a suggestion for my article a few months back and I've been unable to incorporate it due to the

## The Importance Of Paper Shredding And An Update On Recycling

consistent reporting of trash. His experience in picking up wind-blown papers that became trapped in his bushes one trash collection eve, tells a story of caution. He found a partial sheet with personal information on it, appearing to be

medical of some sort. Being a man of integrity, he shredded it and thought of the ramifications avoided if it were found by someone with malicious intent.

Since recycling is generally not an interesting topic, this story connects two de-

cisions all residents make when disposing of paper. The first is the obvious need to destroy, beyond recognition, any paperwork with sensitive information on it that you do not otherwise save. This can be applied to the task of cleaning out a deceased relative's belongings. With the rise of electronic reports and "MyCharts" offered by medical providers, there should be a decrease in the use of these physical documents. Until sensitive documents are all digital, we all must be vigilant.

The second decision is how to dispose of this type of paperwork. Shredding has become popular via household paper shredders. It does the job of destroying the sensitive information, but there is a catch: the shredded paper is no longer recyclable via the yellow recycling bucket. This household-shredded paper must be bagged and placed in the trash. Shredded paper is only recyclable when it is commercially shredded, such as one of the Township- or County-offered shredding events each year. This keeps the material isolated from other recyclables and is able to be marketed individually.

If weekly shredding is not an option, remember that all Pennsauken trash is taken from your curb and delivered to the incinerator. Shredded credit card offers, statements and the like can be bagged with your regular garbage for this disposal. To avoid loose, non-shredded paperwork in the recycling bucket, I combine all circulars/newspapers and junk mail into a paper bag and place in the bottom of my recycling bucket. It serves two purposes: First, it provides some weight to a recycling bucket that has the tendency to fall over in high winds. Second, in the event that the can is toppled over, the papers are confined to this sealed paper bag.

This stuff is generally not interesting, but it does apply to everyday life.

Whichever your choice in disposal, please be vigilant with your sensitive information.

Camden County and FCR-Camden, LLC, our contracted recycling plant, performed an audit of all of the recycling from participating Camden County municipalities, assessing the contamination levels in the stream. Similar to years past, these contamination levels are primarily plastic bags and other non-recyclable materials. Since last year's audit, all participating municipalities have held the line with continued lower-than-national-average figures of trash in the recycling. This is a good sign that our efforts in educating Pennsauken residents across all recycling routes have taken hold.

The primary indicator of this is the great reduction of "rejected loads" on a daily basis, which get reported to my office. We might have a bad load once a month, where we previously had four loads each week!

As our crews catch up from the backlog of work due to our internal trash collection efforts in late May and June, we will begin targeting areas again with our red tag initiative and educational materials. Our ongoing goal is to address each issue with a friendly letter and request that the homeowner remedy the contamination. The main culprit is the bagging of recyclables with plastic bags. It's as simple as leaving the bottles/cans loose in the recycling bucket. Also, pizza boxes are trash due to the grease. We have helpful magnets that outline what can go in the recycling bin for distribution that are handed out with this educational material. If you would like one, simply contact our office. Call us at (856) 663-0178, email us at [PublicWorks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:PublicWorks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us) or find us on Facebook at "Pennsauken Twp. Dept. of Public Works."



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## Virtual Public Information Center For Multi-Use Trail Project Held On August 11

Residents are invited to a Virtual Public Information Center for the proposed Pennsauken-Merchantville Multi-Use Trail Project. The purpose is to

inform the various stakeholders of the proposed plan for the project.

The format for the Public Information Center will be a brief presentation fol-

lowed by a period for questions and answers. The public will have an opportunity to review exhibits, ask questions, and discuss any concerns.

The Virtual Public Information Center will be held Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 6:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. Participants can register in advance of meeting by visiting <https://bit.ly/PennsaukenTrail> or join

via phone by calling (267) 857-3801, Phone Conference ID: 261 810 315#.

This rails-to-trails project will utilize existing abandoned railroad ROW adjacent to Chestnut Ave. located in Pennsauken Township. The trail will begin at the termination of the previously completed Merchantville portion. A new trail crossing will be provided at

Cove Rd. The trail will then extend approximately 0.30 and terminate with a turnaround at the existing abandoned railroad trestle bridge over the NJ Transit Atlantic City Line.

To learn more about the project, or for questions or concerns, please contact Vittorio M. Anepete, project manager for McCormick Taylor, Inc., at (856) 793-0800.



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## Out Of The Darkness Community Walk Held At Cooper River Park

The American Foundation for the Prevention of Suicide is hosting its Out of the Darkness Community Walk on Saturday, Oct. 9, at the Vista Deck at Cooper River Park. During the event, those affected by suicide – and those who support them – raise awareness and much-needed funds, strongly sending the message that suicide is preventable, and that no one is alone.

Held in hundreds of cities across the country, the Community Walks give people the courage to open up about



their own connections to the cause, and a platform to create a culture that's smarter about mental health. Friends, family members, neighbors and coworkers walk side-by-side, supporting each other and in memory of those they've

lost to suicide.

Day-of registration begins at 10:00 a.m. The walk ceremony begins at 11:15 a.m. To register for the event, visit [AFSP.org/Camden](https://www.afsp.org/camden).

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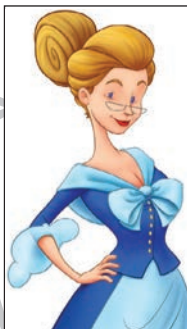


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## Cadets Complete Junior Police Academy



Over 30 cadets participated in this year's Junior Police Academy, run by the Pennsauken Township Police Department.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Last month, over 30 young people from Pennsauken completed a week-long journey into the life of a police officer during the Pennsauken Township Police Department's Junior Police Academy Class #4. The cadets participated in an exciting and challenging week of education, awareness, and training. Their accomplishments were recognized during

a ceremony at Pennsauken High School.

"Our cadets worked extremely hard and showed so much heart during this week," said Ptl. Robert Carey of the Pennsauken Police Department, one of the academy's instructors. "They should be proud of what they've been able to accomplish."

Cadets experienced some of the training Pennsauken's police officers undergo,

as well as some of their daily responsibilities. The young people, ranging in age from 10-13, learned about the resources and equipment used in law enforcement, participated in mock traffic stops and crime scene investigations, watched presentations from the town's K-9 unit and the Camden County Technical Services/Bomb Unit, and much more.

"Both our officers and cadets did an amazing job during this year's Junior Police Academy," said Acting Chief Phil Olivo. "This program not only builds character among the cadets, but also strengthens the sense of community between our officers and the public we serve. We look forward to offering this again next year."

"This is a great way for our young people to see what it takes to be a police officer and maybe inspire a few of them to serve their community with a career in law enforcement," said Marco DiBattista. "I thank the Pennsauken Township Police Department for putting the Junior Police Academy together."

Congratulations to cadets from Class #4 of the Pennsauken Junior Police Academy: Ayden Alves, Antonio Baisden, Aiyannah Baisden, Joshua Bedics,

Lexi Carey, Joshua Carey, Alina Carrasquillo, Christian Crespo, Joshua Crespo, Kiheem Davis, Daniel Edwards, Simone Errigo, Sebastian Fonseca, Jackson Fontano, Josh Hernandez, Isabel Hertline, Alanis James, Vince Martinez Jr., Paula Mercado, Angelica Mercado, Sophia Mercado, Easton Mesa, Jack Olivo, Brandon Patti, Johnny Perez Jr.,

Sincere Portobanco, Eli Rivera, Nathaniel Rosario, Ryan Terry, Samantha Terry, Olivia Torres, and Samuel Torres. And a special thank you to the Junior Police Academy instructors: Ptl. Robert Carey, Detective Michael DiCamilla, Ptl. Liz Perez, Ptl. Ryan Madden, Ptl. Charles Brewer, Ptl. William Hertline III, and Ptl. Lexus Matos.

## SENIORCORNER

### Camden County Offers Online Support For Caregivers

By Sonny DiSabato,  
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

"Branching Out to Caregivers" is a caregiver support group that provides resources and health caregiving. Held using Zoom, attendees can log on to learn about caregiver stress, legal concerns, respite programs, adult medical day centers, Alzheimer's and dementia education, and much more. This event is presented by the Camden County Commissioners, the Department of Health

and Human Services, Division of Senior and Disabled Services, and ADRC.

Upcoming dates are Aug. 11, Sept. 21, and Oct. 19. For virtual meeting information, visit [www.CamdenCounty.com/Caregivers](http://www.CamdenCounty.com/Caregivers). To R.S.V.P., contact Erin Small Gabriel at (856) 374-2582 or [erin.small@camdencounty.com](mailto:erin.small@camdencounty.com).

Best wishes for continued health, particularly during these times. Be sure to say a prayer for our soldiers serving overseas.



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# inSchool

## Mrs. Monaghan Retires After 34 Years

Mrs. Denise Monaghan started teaching for the Pennsauken School District in September of 1987, right after graduating from La Salle University. She was hired as a self-contained special education teacher at Roosevelt School and she stayed in that role for five years. She eventually transitioned to the resource room and in-class support teacher for the next several years. Team teaching with peers was a typical assignment for Mrs. Monaghan for the next 18 years, but at year 23, she was transferred to shape the minds of students at Delair Elementary.



Monaghan

young teachers in this head teaching position all the way through to retirement. She was also a valuable liaison for teachers and administrators in this role. There were many days in her career where she not only managed her classroom but had to make administrative-like decisions when the building's principal was not present.

Throughout these 34 years, Denise Monaghan never compromised her main objective of always doing what is best for the students within her charge. She has been known by her peers and principals as someone who is a steadfast planner, organizer, and facilitator of knowledge. Many say that the hallmark of a quality teacher is their ability to keep students engaged and curious at all times. Mrs. Monaghan has been just that for countless Pennsauken children for more than three decades. Her professionalism, experience and teaching knowledge will be missed within the community, but we all wish her health, happiness, and success on her next life's journey.

## Christine Lim Honored By Princeton University

Pennsauken High School English teacher Christine Lim was recently honored by Princeton University. She received the Princeton Prize for Distinguished Secondary School Teaching and was one of four New Jersey teachers recognized!

Christine was nominated by her principal at PHS and her application was singled out from 15 finalists that were chosen from submissions that were sent in by public and private high schools from around the state for both the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. The application process is extremely detailed, including an in-person visit from Princeton's Program in Teacher Preparation. Ms. Lim received \$5,000, as well as \$3,000 for the Pennsauken High School Library.

Lim embraces a one-word teaching philosophy: "Kaizen," meaning "continuous improvement," in Japanese. In doing so, she promotes a culture of self-growth in her 9th and 10th grade English classes, where students actively engage in Socratic Seminars, spoken word poetry writing, and book club study to create a

classroom family.

Daily Mood Checks and weekly evaluations enables Lim to be attentive to her students' emotional well-being, though many were fully remote learners this year. To reflect upon their successes and their struggles, students write "Anything Journals" as a validation of their unique stories.

As adviser for the Asian Student Association, Lim organizes the annual Lunar New Year celebration and an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month assembly, among many other social, cultural, and charitable events.

Lim also invites Pennsauken High School alumni as guest speakers to assist her current students with the Common Application, college essays and financial aid paperwork, in addition to arranging weekly job fairs to empower students to take control of their future.

Congratulations to Christine for this well-deserved honor!



Lim

## Carson Students Practice Mindfulness



Ms. Taylor's kindergarten class takes a brain break and does yoga, which helps the students relax and remain focused. The kindergarteners enjoy this experience; they are eager to participate and are willing to get back to schoolwork!

## Studying Area And Perimeter



Students in Mrs. Ben Abdallah's class at Franklin practiced area and perimeter by studying rectangles and squares taped on the floor.



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## Unified Team At Intermediate School

Unified Sports® joins people with and without disabilities (known as Unified Partners) on the same team. Dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences, it was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

This year is the very first time we introduced a Unified Team at the Intermediate School. The program ran after school from May 17 through June 8. Organized and facilitated by Christine Wetzel, Courtney Rowan, and Catherine Beck, the program focused on games and activities that promoted social interactions, community building, and just having fun! The students, supervised by our facilitators and educational assistants Mrs. Beaver, Mrs. Gillis, Mrs. Upshaw, Ms. Walker, Ms. Sherman, Ms. Hines, Ms. James, and Ms. Shockley, worked in partnership with each other during project



As part of the Intermediate School's Unified Program, students of all abilities enjoyed games and activities that promoted social interactions, community building, and just having fun!

completion and outdoor games.

The students enjoyed the planned activities and the social interaction with

new friends. We are looking forward to continuing with the Unified Program next year!

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in the Merchantville/Collins Tract area, to house two charming cats, one delightful dog, and their almost equally charming and delightful owner: AAP Columnist, Judith Kristen.

**Please call Judy @ 215-939-8116**

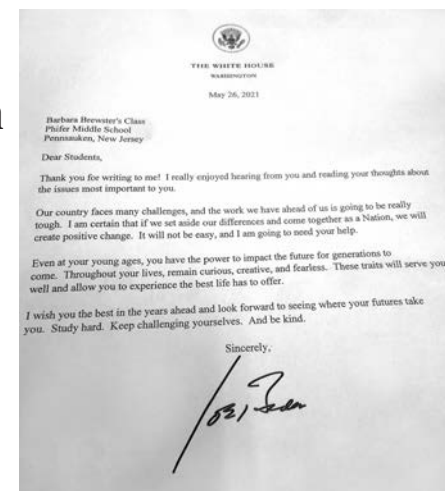
### PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact:

**Nicole Roberts, Editor**  
nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net

## Phifer Students Write President Biden

Mrs. Brewster's class followed the Presidential election and learned the process for electing a new president. They wrote letters congratulating President Biden and shared with him the problems they believed were greatest facing our country. They have been eagerly awaiting a response and were so excited to receive this letter from him!



## Delair LEGO League Wraps Up Year



Students in the Delair School LEGO League celebrated their final meeting with a free play session while watching a LEGO movie! Each student also received a closing certificate. Students participated for five weeks and were provided individual LEGO bags, snacks and daily challenges to build which coincided with a fairytale story! Go LEGO Builders!

## Delair Celebrates Muffins With Mom



Delair School celebrated Muffins with Mom! Moms, grand moms, abuelas, aunts, big sisters and friends came to sit with our students, share a muffin and a special treat. Good music, a red carpet and a sunny day were icing on the cake for these lovely ladies!



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### FALL CLASSES

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**Boys Tap & Hip Hop  
Classes Now Available**

**NEW STUDENTS  
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1st Month Tuition**



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi,  
MEd<sup>2</sup>, M.S., M.B.S.,  
M.A.<sup>2</sup>, Ed.D., Ph.D.,  
Superintendent,  
Pennsauken Public Schools

We are soon approaching the start of the 2021-2022 school year. We look forward to seeing all of our students back to school this fall; and I assure you that this will be a fun and exceptional school year for our children. We are taking every step to make certain the start of the school year is safe, while ensuring that students have every academic and extra-curricular opportunity they would have any other year.

As of right now, we are opening on a full day, regular five-day schedule for all of our schools. We will work to ensure all sports, extra-curricular activities, and daily educational procedures are continued with a sense of normalcy for all of our students despite the rising COVID-19 numbers. Please expect multiple communications coming from me before the school year begins regarding changes in state government mandates, masks, and overall safety precautions. We are praying for a normal school year filled with learning, curiosity, wonder, and amusement for all of our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Rowan University Graduate School to Pennsauken Public Schools. For the first time, Rowan University will be partnering with a school district to create doctoral and master's programs that will be hosted at Penn-

## Something Special's Going On In Pennsauken Public Schools



The Rowan University Graduate School is coming to Pennsauken. Pictured here with Dr. Tarchichi is Dr. Coaxum and Dr. Farrow from Rowan University.

sauken Public Schools. Graduate school classes will take place at our new Media Center at Pennsauken High School and this partnership with Rowan University will ensure a wonderful opportunity for Camden County, Rowan University, and all of South Jersey.

Since 2016, we have created articulation agreements with Camden County College, Rowan College of Burlington County, Rowan College of Gloucester County, and Rowan University, Main Campus. Our students have already begun to take advantage of these programs and have left Pennsauken High School with college credits which not only advances their post-secondary education, but it also saves their parents a great deal of money when paying for college. Now, with the addition of these master's and doctoral graduate programs

from Rowan University being added to our campus, educational professionals from all over the state and area can grow as scholars on our Pennsauken High School grounds. The first doctoral cohort, starting this September, is comprised of many of our educators that will begin their doctoral journey in our beautiful media center. I would like to congratulate our students that took advantage of this opportunity and we look forward to many years of this partnership with

Rowan University.

Additionally, the Board of Education and I have spent a great deal of time building Career and Technical Education (CTE) options for students which include automotive, carpentry, cosmetology, culinary arts, electrical construction, welding, criminal justice, Air Force JROTC, HVACR, EMT and fire safety, and health occupations. Pennsauken Public Schools will slowly be opening a night school program for many of these

## Fine Celebrates Third Graders On Front Lawn



Fine third graders had a special promotion ceremony on the school's front lawn.

During the last week of the school year like no other, Fine third graders were recognized for their promotion to Pennsauken Intermediate School. Students had their own beautiful day on the front lawn at George B. Fine Elementary.

Students sat on folding chairs and faced the parents who were proudly standing and sitting in the grass. Mr. Honeyman recounted the successes and challenges of the pandemic school year. He

was extremely proud of how students worked independently at home and progressed through the curriculum despite the scheduling challenges.

Each third grader was given a certificate that represented a strength for which they embody. Their names were called, and pictures were taken with their families.

This celebration was a wonderful way to highlight the brave Fine students who survived a very challenging year!

## Ice Cream Treats At Intermediate School



Students were treated to ice cream during the "Sprinkle in the Park" event!

On May 26 and 27, the Pennsauken Intermediate School hosted a "Sprinkle in the Park" ice cream treat for the students!

All school year, the students have been doing an excellent job in helping to

keep our Intermediate School families safe and in following all COVID-19 safety protocols. This was our way of rewarding their effort. They enjoyed the treats immensely!

CTE programs in the near future.

Through these partnerships and options, Pennsauken Public Schools will have the option of career growth or change for both educational professionals and vocational careers. This will be in addition to the plethora of academic and vocational opportunities offered to our secondary students on an annual basis.

## Property Alliance Holding School Supplies Drive For Baldwin

The Property Alliance, located at 4114 W. Maple Ave., in Pennsauken, is holding its third-annual school supplies drive benefiting Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center.

Now through Sept. 1, individuals can donate gently used or unused school supplies. The donation wishlist includes backpacks, crayons, folders, glue, scissors, colored pencils, markers, construction paper, rulers, erasers, basic calculators, and craft supplies.

To donate, call (856) 888-1133 or email [sara@thepropertyalliance.com](mailto:sara@thepropertyalliance.com).

## Franklin Holds Parent Involvement Week



An outdoor camp-a-palooza was part of Franklin's parent involvement week.

This year, Franklin Elementary made parent involvement night a week-long event. Our theme was camping. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday night, teachers held virtual activities. There were math and ELA activities and a nightly read-a-loud. Then on Thursday, we held our camp-a-palooza! Many of our remote families came out who we haven't seen all year. Mrs. Levecchia set up several stations that the students could enjoy.

## Johnson Speaks About Memorial Day At Delair



Board of Education member Diane Johnson visited kindergarteners at Delair and spoke about Memorial Day.

Pennsauken Board of Education member Ms. Diane Johnson visited Mrs. Horiates' class at Delair to talk about Memorial Day and read the story, "A Day for Rememberin.'" An Air Force veteran, Ms. Johnson answered questions

from the kindergarteners about the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and of course what her own duties were in the Air Force.

It was an honor to have Diane Johnson visit!



## Fine School Creates Their Own Zoo

Field trips have always been an anticipated break from the “normal” school day. There was not a lot of “normal” this past year; due to the pandemic, all field trips were canceled. So Fine Elementary thought outside the box this year and decided to create a zoo experience so our students would have a fun memory.

We were not able to have any living creatures at the school because of COVID-19. But Jet Creations makes zoo animal floats that look quite lifelike, and our counseling staff found backdrops and created scenery to add to the zoo appearance. Of course, it is not a day

at the zoo without popcorn and a few small gifts. Students were given colorful cups for their popcorn to take home and a zoo-themed mask.

Keeping with tradition, this zoo experience was also educational. The students were led around to each animal by the “Zoo Keeper,” who provided a few facts about each one. There were animals from Australia, Africa, Asia, and North and South America. The weather was on our side and the students had time to sit around and sketch their favorite animal. This event was open to hybrid and remote students. The remote students who



Fine students enjoyed their special trip to the creative “zoo” on school grounds.

were interested could show up at Fine after online class for some zoo fun!

## Poetry Contest Winners At Fine



Fine Principal Mr. Honeyman with poetry contest winners Jayden Ngo and Francella Sang.

For at least the third year in a row, a Fine student has placed in the annual Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library Poetry Contest. Several Fine students submitted entries, but the school was fortunate enough to have two students place!

Francella Sang Espinales won second prize in the serious category for the primary level for her poem, “I am Happy.” Jayden Ngo won first prize in the creative category for the primary level for his poem, “I’m Skating.”

Congratulations to Francella, Jayden, and all of our talented poets!

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## Picnic Time At Carson



Ms. Vance's class took advantage of the beautiful weather and enjoyed their lunch outdoors. The shade and the cool breeze were a perfect combination for cool and relaxing outdoor dining experience!

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## Preschool Meet And Greets In September

The Pennsauken School District will hold two “Popsicles on the Playground” prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- Wednesday, Sept. 1, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center, 3901 Sharon Terrace
- Thursday, Sept. 2, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Burlington Elementary, 3600 Harris Ave.

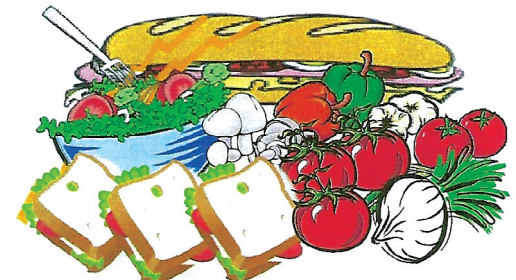
This will be your opportunity to meet your child's teacher, other parents with preschool students, and learn more about our schools.

We hope to see you there!

### Time Changes For Preschool

Preschool hours for the 2021-2022 school year will now be 8:45 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. The first day of school is Sept. 8.

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- Must pass CDL Permit Written Test P/S Endorsement
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### **REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS**

**WITH CURRENT CDL CLASS B & REQUIRED P/S Endorsements:**

- Must Pass Drug Test
- Background Check



**For More Information call 856-662-8502**

## “Taste Of Pennsauken/Merchantville” Returns August 23

The Woman's Club of Merchantville Evening Membership Department's "Taste of Pennsauken/Merchantville" is returning on Monday, Aug. 23, to the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Had-donfield Rd., from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

For just \$20 a person, attendees will

have an opportunity to sample some of this area's finest cuisine. Many of the restaurants and caterers are returning (Marco's, Macaro's, H&H Deli, 45th Street Pub, Montegrillo Cucina Italiana, La Cocina) and we are excited to have new restaurants (Penn Queen Diner,

Robertito's Cuisine, Avacado Fiesta) participating.

We welcome the participation of new restaurants. Last time, over 100 people attended, giving restaurants the opportunity to promote their businesses.

For more information, to register your

restaurant or catering business, to sponsor a table for \$40, or to order tickets, contact Jan at (609) 410-4650 or janwh@aol.com. Proceeds from the event will benefit scholarships and local charities.

Since 1894, the Merchantville Woman's Club has been one of the leading service organizations in the region. Outstanding women from our community are mem-

bers committed to making a difference. Among other things, the Club raises money for charitable work while having fun. The Woman's Club is always looking for new members who want to help their community and meet new people. For more information call (609) 410-4650 or email janwh@aol.com.

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## Music Camp, Toddler Group Held This Month

Promised Land Music and A Child's Fun & Games Music Class Prelude are holding a music camp and toddler group from Aug. 16-20 in Merchantville.

Music camp classes feature fun music activities and games to inspire creativity, skill building and confidence. Instrument focus is piano, flute, sax, clarinet, and guitar. Held for children ages 5-10, camp will be from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.

The toddler group, held for children ages 1-4 with a parent, will encourage learning through play and song. The group runs from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

The cost for these programs is \$40 per child plus a supply fee (\$10-15). For additional details, questions, and to register, email muslife23@gamil.com or call (609) 206-9031.

## Toy And Collectible Street Fair Held On September 18

Play With This Toys & Collectibles is presenting its annual Toy and Collectible Street Fair on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Held along West Park Ave. in Merchantville, the event

showcases a variety of new and vintage toys, games, and collectibles for sale.

For more information, visit "Play With This Toys & Collectibles" on Facebook.

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## HEALTHYLIFESTYLES

(Family Features) During the warmer months, there's often a great deal of shuffling and movement, including common allergy triggers like trees, pollen, mold spores, dust and dander along with pesky sinus pressure. While more commonly associated with other seasons, summer allergies can be one big pain – literally.

“Common triggers such as trees, pollen, mold spores, dust and dander can wreak havoc for many,” Dr. Ian Smith, M.D., said. “Having a trusted multi-symptom reliever of upper respiratory allergies like Mucinex Sinus-Max is absolutely key in making the season more enjoyable for all suffering from sinus and congestion issues. With a reliable multi-symptom product stashed in your medicine cabinet, and the combination of simple modifications like being mindful of your indoor climate, eating more fruits and veggies, and staying hy-

## Warm Weather Wellness: Tips To Promote Health And Wellbeing

drated, can help limit sinus discomfort this season.”

Take steps this summer to ease the impact of sinus and allergy problems and focus on your overall wellness with these tips:

Control your allergy and sinus triggers. Knowing what flares your allergic reactions can help prevent discomfort. For many people, monitoring pollen counts and limiting time outdoors on high-pollen days can help reduce reactions. You might also avoid hanging laundry outside, as pollen can stick to clothes and sheets as they dry, and ask for help with yardwork to limit your exposure.

Find some pressure release. When nasal congestion or sinus pressure build, it can feel like a ton of bricks have landed on your head. However, you can find relief with products designed to help clear up your stuffy nose, relieve headaches

and thin and loosen excess mucus. Often, if you're experiencing sinus problems, you're dealing with multiple symptoms. From congestion to headaches and sinus pressure, an over-the-counter medicine like Mucinex Sinus-Max can break up your sinus symptoms with just one dose or your money back.

Manage your indoor climate. Even when you start spending more time outdoors, it's important to keep close tabs on the quality of the air inside your home. If you're prone to allergy flare-ups or sinus infections, manage the humidity level by using a humidifier or dehumidifier. If outdoor allergens are a concern, avoid opening windows and doors, and instead rely on air conditioning on warmer days. Also be sure to change filters regularly and use an air purifier for added protection.

Pile on fresh produce. After spending cooler months consuming comfort foods

and fewer fresh veggies, warmer temperatures usher in a new menu of opportunity. Take advantage of all the garden-rich options and fuel your body with vitamin- and nutrient-rich produce that fills farmers markets, grocery stores and even roadside stands.

Soak up the sun (responsibly). Summer typically provides plenty of opportunities to spend some time soaking up the sun's rays. Vitamin D is an essential nutrient that affects numerous body systems, including the immune system and bone health. It's also been shown to improve your mood and reduce depression, so take in plenty of fresh air and sparkling sunlight. Just remember to slather on plenty of sunscreen to protect your skin from harmful UV rays and don't forget to protect your eyes with UV-blocking sunglasses.

Keep fluids flowing. More time outdoors in warmer weather can quickly

lead to dehydration, especially if you're working up a sweat. Drink plenty of water to stay well hydrated and keep your body operating in top shape. Staying hydrated can also help keep mucus moving, allowing you to ease through allergy or sinus problems.

Update your medicine cabinet. Take stock of your medical supplies and medications periodically to ensure you have what you need for the season ahead. Discard any expired prescriptions or over the counter medicines and be sure restock common summer essentials like bug bite ointments, sunburn spray and multi-symptom products like Mucinex Sinus-Max to help temporarily relieve sinus and congestion symptoms in one dose. Also be sure to replenish your first aid kit with plenty of bandages and wound care supplies.

For more information, visit [Mucinex.com](http://Mucinex.com).



## Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

## Think Twice About What You're Flushing

Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and even “flushable” wipes, can't go down the toilet

Please do not flush baby wipes, “flushable” wipes, disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is asking residents to think twice about what they are flushing down their toilets.

Paper towels, tissues, napkins, disinfectant wipes, and supposedly “flushable” wipes should not be flushed down the toilet.

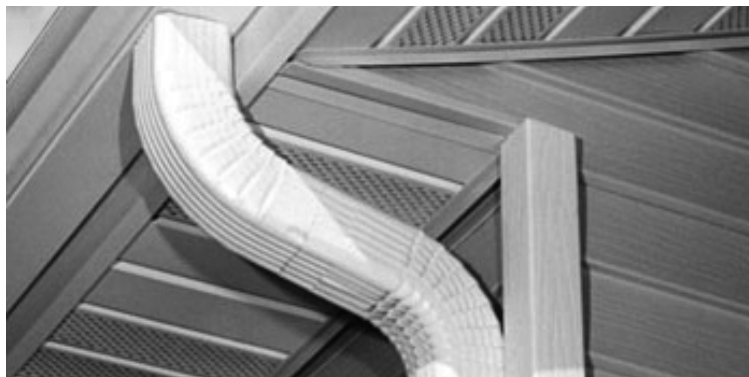
The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority remains available 24 hours a day to assist residents. We have

enacted a “No Public Contact” policy for the protection of our neighbors and our employees but we will respond to all requests for assistance and will advise the homeowner of our findings by telephone. If you require assistance call (856) 662-0686.



## Improper Connections Cause Property Damage

The connection of sump pumps and down spouts to the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. During periods of heavy rain, these connections often overwhelm the main lines. This could result in a sewage back up into your own home or the home of your neighbor. If you need additional information about these types of connections, or suspect you or a neighbor, may have an improper connection and want information about having it removed, please call our office at (856) 663-5542.



### REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DRIVE THRU IS NOW OPEN DURING OUR REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS. PLEASE USE THE MAIL SLOT LOCATED IN OUR PUBLIC ENTRANCE DOOR TO DROP PAYMENTS WHEN THE OFFICE AND WHILE THE LOBBY REMAINS CLOSED.

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If there is a sewer emergency, call the emergency telephone number (856-662-0686) and someone will respond to the call. If you need to contact us for information, you can email [customerservice@psewer.com](mailto:customerservice@psewer.com) and we will respond in a timely fashion.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.



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# MPWC WATERLINES

## Attention Customers: Payment Arrangements Are Available!

If you are experiencing a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss payment options. The MPWC will work with you to ensure that your service is not interrupted.

With the voluntary moratorium on

utility service terminations expiring, the MPWC is encouraging customers to contact us as soon as possible to make payment arrangements. Our staff will work with you to reach a comfortable repayment plan.

Our Customer Support Center is

available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. to assist you with your repayment options by phone at (856) 663-0043 or visit us in person at our Westfield Ave. office. Be reminded that the lobby closes at 3:00 p.m. each day.

## Online Payments Should Be Made Via the Link on the MPWC Website!

Attention customers: When paying your bill online, be reminded that the MPWC can only verify payments in real time if you pay through the link on our website. Please visit [www.mpw.com](http://www.mpw.com) and click on the yellow button that reads "Access Online Bill Pay." Payments will be posted to your account on the next business day. If you are in danger of service termination, you may make an online payment and then contact our office where a Customer Support Representative can log on and verify that your pay-

ment is pending.

When customers use a web browser to search for how to pay MPWC bills online, they are often directed to third party sights. Those payments can take up to 10 business days to reach our office.

THE QUICKEST AND SAFEST WAY TO PAY YOUR BILLS IS DIRECTLY WITH THE MPWC EITHER IN PERSON OR VIA OUR SECURED PAYMENT SITE.

Please note that if you choose to pay through your bank's online "Bill Pay"

option, processing will take some extra time. Your bank will actually cut a paper check and mail it to us via USPS. Be sure to schedule your payment well in advance of your due date to avoid penalties and possible service termination.

As always, the MPWC is happy to answer any of your questions. Contact our Customer Support Center at (856) 663-0043 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. For after hour emergencies, please dial (856) 663-0044.

## MPWC Annual Consumer Confidence Report

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with or exceeded all state and federal drinking water requirements.

Our annual Consumer Confidence Report has been completed. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2020. We are proud to inform you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As always, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of

source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

The MPWC will no longer mail individual copies of the Consumer Confidence Report to customers, as it is available electronically on our website, by following the link on your water bill, or by visiting [gemgrp.com/ereports/MPWC2020CCR.pdf](http://gemgrp.com/ereports/MPWC2020CCR.pdf)

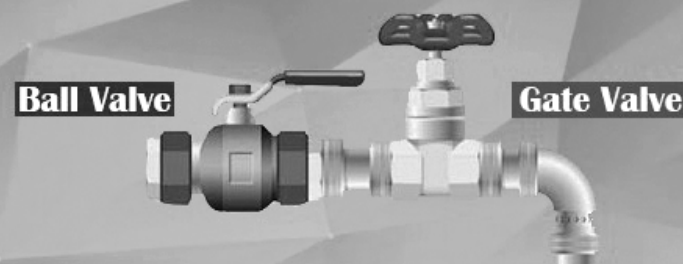
Printed copies are available in our office lobby. If you have any questions, please contact our Customer Support Center during regular business hours,

Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

### KEEP INFORMED WITH REVERSE 9-1-1

For members of the community directly affected by water main breaks, we provide messages via our Reverse 9-1-1 notification system. To stay informed of all water emergencies that may occur within our service area, visit [MPWC.com/swift911](http://MPWC.com/swift911) to sign up for Reverse 9-1-1!

## Did You Know...



All main shut off valves and interior plumbing within the property are the customer's responsibility to maintain and repair.



## Moving?



### For new tenants and homeowners

Please provide us with your lease agreement or Closing Disclosure/Settlement Statement to establish your account.

### If you're moving out...

Please call our office at (856) 663-0043 to schedule a final reading to be done prior to your moving date or settlement. We need your forwarding address or your title company's contact information to know where to send the final bill.

## High water bill?

The toilet's flapper may be the culprit to cause an "invisible leak".



A toilet is made to fill up as soon as the water in the tank dips low. If the flapper doesn't keep the water in the tank, water is flowing through the meter to increase your bill.

Meetings of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission are held in person on the second Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m.

The location is the G. Burton German meeting room at the MPWC's Administrative Headquarters, 6751 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08110. The public is invited to attend. For more information, visit our website, [MPWC.com](http://MPWC.com)

### WATER EMERGENCY?

Call 663-0044 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION  
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 [www.mpw.com](http://www.mpw.com)

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President ■ Mr. Shakir Ali, Vice President  
Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer ■ Mr. Edward Brennan, Secretary  
Mr. Frank Warwick, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer



## *In the* **GARDEN** The Heat Of Summer And The Warm Color Of Flowers

By Victoria Rose, AAP Columnist

Hello from my steamy and humid Pennsauken yard! We all are feeling it; that sun sure is hot, hot, hot! Just remember this when you are shoveling that snow in a few months, LOL! Suddenly, that humidity is not so bad. There is always the option to take a trip to the Pennsauken Municipal Pool to cool off.

I know I reminded you before, but as always, water those plants. They are super thirsty! And no matter how hot it gets those weeds seem to grow even

bigger. Make sure you pull them out. Don't forget, weeding is always easier after it rains. Be on the lookout for those little trees that grow from the helicopter seeds, Tree of Heaven. You know who loves those trees? It's not the angels, it's the lanternfly! Even the smallest sprout will have a few on them. Pull them out and squish those bugs! Lanternflies will damage your wonderful plants. The Tree of Heaven grows quickly and everywhere.

Now let's switch gears and talk about a beautiful shrub that does well in our

town, the hydrangea. They come in several colors such as purple, pink, white, green, and blue. They have huge clusters of flowers that look so stunning and vibrant on a sunny, summer day! The different shades of the bloom can vary in the same plant; it depends on the type of soil they're in. Hydrangeas are known to symbolize good luck and fortune be-

cause of their abundant florals.

A calming activity for the summer is to observe the wonderful butterflies that visit our area. Several types of colorful swallowtails, whites, blues, skippers, and gossamer-winged butterflies are enjoying our flowers, just to name a few. When the light passes through their transparent wings, it is reflected more than once,

which creates multiple reflections intensifying their colors. A fun fact about butterflies: they use their feet to taste. They also fly a little "tipsy" after drinking too much nectar when the sugar they digest turns into ethanol in their stomachs.

Thank you for taking the time to read my column. Until next time, be kind, be beautiful, and be happy!

## “Serve Day” Car Wash Held At Police Station



The parking lot of the Pennsauken Police Station was the site of a free “Serve Day” community car wash last month. Volunteers from Freedom International Worship Center and The Family Church - New Jersey washed cars, with the Pennsauken Township Fire Department assisting with rinsing using a fire engine; and Pennsauken Police offered free hot dogs and pretzels to participants.

## Scrub Daddy Moving Facilities To Pennsauken

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The company behind one of “Shark Tank’s” most successful products is making the move to Pennsauken.

Earlier this year, Scrub Daddy, Inc., “America’s Favorite Sponge Company,” completed a \$10.7 million purchase of a 116,000-square-foot property on Suckle Hwy. Appearing on “Shark Tank” in 2012, the makers of high-performance cleaning products with fun designs have earned over \$330 million in retail sales.

The company is planning to consolidate all their employees under one roof at the Pennsauken facility. In February, the town’s Planning Board approved an extensive amount of site improvements, some of which will bring more green spaces and natural lighting to the industrial building. Work on the facility could be completed in late 2021/early 2022.



Will Augenbraun, chief strategy officer of Scrub Daddy, Inc., shows renovation plans to Shaker Ali, director of regulatory services for Pennsauken, and Tim Killion, the Township’s administrator, during a site visit last month. “America’s Favorite Sponge Company” is consolidating all their employees at a 116,000-square-foot property in Pennsauken.

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## An Open Letter From Mayor DiBattista To The Residents And Businesses Of Pennsauken continued from page 3

difficult to relocate geese, Pennsauken has adopted an ordinance making it illegal to feed them on public property.

Pennsauken's ordinance on improperly disposing of waste materials prohibits anything other than rainwater from going into an inlet. Dumping oil or other unwanted household chemicals into a storm inlet is not only dangerous but also deadly to marine life. Camden County will hold a resident-only hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Pennsauken Sanitary Landfill, 9600 N. River Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This event is held rain or shine.

Remember, pollutants can also be grass, leaves and fertilizers. While some think of these as "organic," they can seriously affect water quality and are a danger to aquatic life. In addition, too many leaves raked down a storm inlet can also cause the sewer to clog and possibly result in flooding. Only rainwater should go down a storm drain.

The ordinances mentioned are intended to remind residents and businesses of the need to stop waterway pollution at the source. And for those who flagrantly violate our ordinances on

littering and pollute our waterways can and will face heavy fines. Residents and business owners who observe this type of behavior in their neighborhoods are urged to report these issues to our Property Maintenance Department by calling (856) 665-1000 x130, x131, or x132.

In addition, the NJDEP has directed municipalities to use the eco-style inlets; their openings are purposely small enough to stop large debris, such as plastic bottles and soda cans from being washed into the storm sewer, but allow rainwater to pass through. Our Township has been installing them throughout our community in an ongoing basis. Businesses are also required by ordinance to retrofit storm inlets whenever a parking lot needs to be repaved or seal coated of a parking area is done.

Pennsauken Township's Highway Department inspects inlets every year and cleans those blocked by debris. However, with over 1,100 inlets throughout the Township, the Highway Department cannot always get to them immediately. Cleaning off a storm inlet and placing the debris in a trash container is a way that Pennsauken resi-

dents can help keep the environment clean. This is particularly important in neighborhoods that are prone to street flooding in a heavy rain.

The ordinances discussed in this article can be found on our Township website ([www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us)) in the Code Book section. Specific requirements are

included in Chapters 101, Animals; Chapter 197, Litter; Chapter 256, Sewers and Drainage Systems; and Chapter 269, Solid Waste. While it is important to be aware of the ordinances that the Township has adopted to protect our waterways, it is really up to each one of us to take responsibility for keeping the environment

clean. Everyone, whether they are a long-time resident, or a brand new business owner moving into town, has the ability to help. Thank you for taking the time to read this extra-long article. I know there were a lot of rules mentioned. I appreciate our residents taking a real interest in improving our town's environment.

## Pennsauken's Hilbert Visits Live With Kelly And Ryan

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Mary Hilbert, owner of the Pennsauken-based food truck Mary's Mobile Diner, was invited up to New York City to be on the "Live With Kelly And Ryan" TV Show. Hilbert appeared on the Hometown Chefs Summer Cooking segment, which aired on July 16.

"A producer emailed in early July and asked if I wanted to come on the show," said Hilbert. "I'm not quite sure how it happened."

It could be in part because of Hilbert's efforts to feed healthcare workers at Cooper University Hospital during the pandemic. Her "Feed the Frontline" initiative, in which she partnered other food trucks and members of the South Jersey community, donated free meals and snacks to Cooper staff.

"We raised funds to provide over 5,000 meals for Cooper," explained Hilbert.



Pennsauken's Mary Hilbert was a guest on "Live With Kelly And Ryan" last month.

"Each chef they had on did something to give back during the pandemic."

Mary was excited to share her caprese grilled cheese, which she makes hundreds of during the many events she helps provide food for. During the segment, Kelly and Ryan appreciated both the sandwich and the company.

"It was pretty cool," said Hilbert. "Ryan and Kelly are just really nice people. They're really funny."

To find out where Mary's Mobile Diner will be next to try this grilled cheese and taste it for yourself, visit "Marys Mobile Diner" on Facebook or [MarysMobileDiner.com](http://MarysMobileDiner.com).

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## Township Committee Makes Ongoing Commitment To Public Safety

*continued from page 1*

dramatically lessens injuries to both police and suspects.

"We want the dealings our officers have with the public to be as safe as possible, both for the police and the people we interact with," said Acting Police Chief Phil Olivo. "The addition to our staff, the improvements to our camera system, and the use of body-worn cameras and less-lethal taser devices, will help us do that."

### Pennsauken Fire Department

In December 2020, the town's Emergency Medical Services were incorporated into the Pennsauken Fire

Department, as a way to streamline processes and reduce costs. Work is ongoing to convert a portion of Fire Station 2 on Merchantville Ave. into an EMS station. This location has already been renovated to house the Office of the Fire Marshal, which provides code enforcement, public education, and fire investigation for Township residents.

Capital funds have been used to purchase two new ambulances and to refurbish the fire department's mobile breathing air unit. Township Committee has also hired four additional firefighters.

"Our firefighters and EMTs do a great job protecting our town 24/7," said Mayor DiBattista. "Whatever Township

Committee can do to help them do that better, we will."

### Future Investments

Township Committee continues to look for ways to enhance Pennsauken's public safety initiatives. One such example is the future conversion of the Singer building on Westfield Ave. into a police substation. Another is to look at how new advances in technology can better assist the town's first responders.

"Investing in public safety is an ongoing commitment from Township Committee," said Mayor DiBattista. "Supporting our police, fire, and EMS is vital to our town's growth."

## Pennsauken Car And Bike Show Returns To Maple Avenue

*continued from page 1*

Food trucks will be on hand offering a variety of fare available for purchase. The Kids Zone will also be returning to the Car and Bike Show, with inflatables and balloon twisting for younger attendees. DJs will be playing classics and popular music throughout the event.

Each year, every effort is made to reduce the impact on the neighborhoods along Maple Ave. and adjoining streets. Local residents will have access to major thoroughways and can get in and out of the area during the event.

"Whether you're a car or motorcycle

enthusiast or looking for a fun time out with your family, Pennsauken's Car and Bike Show is a great opportunity to an outdoor activity," explain Elwood Martz, director of municipal services and head of the town's Department of Parks and Recreation. "We're thrilled to be able to welcome back our longtime participants and hope to see a lot of new faces as well."

The form to register a vehicle for this year's show can be downloaded from the Township's website at [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-car-and-bike-show](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-car-and-bike-show). Pre-registration fees are

\$12 for cars and \$7 for bikes; forms with the entry fee must be mailed to the Pennsauken Township Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110, c/o Elwood "Duke" Martz by Tuesday, Sept. 14. Registration on the day of the show is held from 10:00 a.m. to noon; at that time, fees are \$15 for cars \$8 for bikes.

In case of inclement weather, the rain date for the Car, Bike and Craft Show is Sunday, Sept. 26.

For questions or more information, email Elwood "Duke" Martz at [emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us) or call (856) 665-1000 x151.

## National Night Out In Pennsauken Held On August 3

*continued from page 1*

it's more important than ever for first responders to be an active part of the community," said Acting Chief Phil Olivo of the Pennsauken Police Department. "We hope that Pennsauken comes out for this great event."

According to the National Night Out website, NATW.org, "Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all

fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas celebrates on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cook-outs and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more."

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## DEATHNOTICES Remembering Two Pennsauken Veterans

Robert J. Patterson Jr., longtime Pennsauken resident, passed away Thursday, June 25. He was 70. A U.S. Navy veteran, Bob was a beloved part of the Pennsauken Public School District where he worked as a bus aide. Prior to that, he had dedicated many years as a dispatcher for the Camden Police Department. He had a beautiful singing voice and was a gregarious man who served as an usher at Saint Peter Roman Catholic Church in Merchantville during the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Bob was also a longtime member of the American Legion Post 372 of Cherry Hill.

Bob's visitation was held at the Gaskill-Brown Funeral Home in Merchantville.



Patterson

Graveside service with Naval honors was held at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Wrightstown.

### Joseph D'Ottavi

Joseph A. D'Ottavi, age 92, formerly of Pennsauken, passed away on July 18.

Joseph was the beloved husband of Helen D. (nee Nicholson); devoted father of Debra Young (Harold) of Stratford, Dana Feigenbutz (Edward) of Riverton, Joseph E. D'Ottavi of Haddon Township, David D'Ottavi (Teresa) of Haddonfield, and the late Donna D'Ottavi; loving grandfather of Zachery (Jennifer), Jennifer (Garin), Erica (Brian), Rachel (Tom), Ashley (Richard), Matthew, and Abigail; great grandfather of Cienna, Capri, Noah, Claire, Cullen, Amelia, Sophia and Beatrice; and dear brother of Minnie Cordo of Cherry Hill and the late Mildred Giorgio, Mary Neri, Caroline D'Ottavi and Rudolph D'Ottavi. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.



D'Ottavi

Joseph was a United States Army Veteran who served as an OR technician during his years of service. He retired from RCA in Camden after 42

years and continued to work for another 25 years at Johnson-Matthey in West Deptford until the age of 85.

Joseph enjoyed socializing with family and friends, celebrating his faith, serving as an usher at St. Peter's Merchantville for over 60 years, bowling and watching sports. He was proud of his family and he will be greatly missed by those who loved him.

Visitation was held at the Falco/

Caruso & Leonard Pennsauken Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Peter Roman Catholic Church in Merchantville. Interment followed at Calvary Cemetery in Cherry Hill.

Memorial donations may be made to the MS Research Institute, Penn Treaty Park Place, 1341 N. Delaware Ave., Suite 213, Philadelphia, PA 19125.

## Notification Of Third Quarter Property Tax Grace Period

In the printing of the estimated property tax bill, it came to the attention of the Pennsauken Tax Office that the printed date for the grace period was incorrect. The grace period for residents' third quarter property tax bill ends after 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 10. Under state law, the Tax Office is not legally allowed to extend the grace period out beyond the 10 days unless the 10th falls on a weekend or holiday.

The Pennsauken Tax Office apologizes for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

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## FOODADVENTURES When The Food Can't Be Found: The Reality Of Food Deserts

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

Since the moment I could peak over a counter, my mother and grandmother have raised me by their side in their kitchens. Even now, my own son cooks meals with me multiple times a week. Growing up with this appreciation for good food has given me the chance to try frog legs in France, a traditional English Breakfast in the U.K., and so many more food adventures far and wide. This is the happy side of food. What people don't usually get to see is the darker side

of the food world: food deserts.

Food deserts are an ugly but true reality that people, often located in less fortunate areas, fight with every day. Defined as, "an urban area in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good-quality fresh food," food deserts create a world of other issues. One of the leading causes of obesity in low-income areas is poor diet and lack of fresh foods. There are also higher risks of diabetes, high blood pressure, and cardiac issues, among others.

Neighborhood grocery stores in areas

with food deserts don't want to fail their neighbors in providing better food, but they are currently fighting a difficult uphill battle in the pricing of the healthier foods. Studies found that residents in food deserts are required to pay anywhere from 3 to 37 percent more for their produce and dairy than at a chain grocery store. Store owners are only buying a box of apples rather than a truckload which ends up costing more. This is often a price hard to swallow for a local low-income market that knows that if those apples don't sell, they lose their money.

There has been movement, however slow, to combat these food deserts. Even local entities within Pennsauken have found ways to offer better options to surrounding towns that can't afford to go to a grocery store for fresh items. Every month, All Around Pennsauken publishes a list of places where people can go for good, fresh food at no cost to them. You can find it on page 4 of this issue. These food pantries always need volunteers. My son and I have met some of the most amazing people through volunteering. If volunteering won't work for you, donating is another great way to help. Canned goods, pantry items, monetary offerings, everything helps. Pennsauken is also home to the Food Bank of South Jersey, which provides

food to people in need, teaching them to eat nutritiously, and helping them to find sustainable ways to improve their lives. Visit [www.foosbanksj.org](http://www.foosbanksj.org) to see how you can help OR how they can help you.

Food deserts won't go away overnight. It takes a lot of people making a lot of big decisions to change what has been going on. With the combined efforts of state and local government,

along with local community organizations and urban planners, identifying and combating food deserts is possible.

If you or someone you know is struggling to get better, healthier food for your family, it's so important that you use places like the ones in this article to help you get back into food security. We all deserve the right to eat healthy foods and enjoy a Food Adventure.

## Giving Back To First Repsonders



Pennsauken-based food truck Dan's Waffles gave back to the town's first responders by donating meals at the Pennsauken Police Department on July 18.

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## FRIENDS of the LIBRARY Final Lemonade 4 Change On August 8

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

The final event in our ongoing Lemonade 4 Change campaign to help the Friends raise money to increase the Pennsauken Free Public Library's collection of books on diversity comes up this month on Sunday, Aug. 8, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. As always, remember that it's a drive-through only event; no walk-ups or bikes will be permitted. Participants will place their cash donation in the bin (checks are most definitely welcome as well if you prefer) then drive through to receive their cold lemonade. Given the

way this summer has been heat-wise, the thoughts of a refreshing and COLD treat should be great incentive for everyone to want to participate, and doubly so knowing you're helping the Library!

And speaking of helping, next time you order something from Amazon, why not consider signing up for AmazonSmile if you haven't already done so? Type in smile.amazon.com, and you'll see all the same merchandise, pricing, and delivery information you usually see. Only this time, you can designate the Friends of the Pennsauken Library as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of eligible purchases to

the Friends. There's no fee and no cost to you and you'll get a double whammy for having bought something from Amazon. You get what you need, and the Friends receive a donation. How perfect is that?

Finally, please also consider joining the Friends as a new member. You can find out how to join on our website, PennsaukenLibraryFriends.org. Things have been slow this past year dealing with COVID, but when we resume our full complement of monthly activities and fundraising events, we'll need to hear from people like you – new members – because it's always great getting new ideas from new people. We hope you'll be one of them!

We thank you and appreciate all the support everyone has given us this past year. Stay tuned as we get back into the swing of things.

## Firefighters Recognized For Rescue Efforts

Congratulations to Battalion Chief Frank Hillman, Captain Ed Paul, Lt. John Clark, Fireman Mike Stamm, Fireman Justin Squibb, Fireman Joe Palumbo, Jr., Fireman Joe Magliari, Fireman Jack Sodano, the members of Cherry Hill Fire Department USAR13, and the members of Camden Fire Department Rescue 1 for being recognized with Unit Citation Awards by the Cam-

den County Hero Scholarship Fund.

During the early hours of January 21, 2021, their combined efforts allowed for the extrication of a female commuter who was struck by a light rail train and was entangled in the wheels under the train at the New Jersey Transit 36th Street Rail Station.

The recognition for their hard work and grace under pressure is well deserved!



First responders from Camden, Cherry Hill, and Pennsauken were recognized for extricating a commuter trapped under the wheels of a light rail train in Pennsauken on Jan. 21 of this year.



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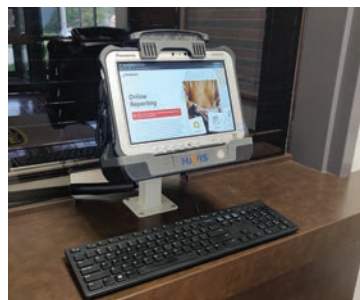
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## Police Install Kiosk For Reporting Minor Offenses



Last month, the Pennsauken Police Department added a kiosk in the lobby of the Police Administration Building, 2400 Bethel Ave. This kiosk help alleviate wait times for members of the community wishing to report minor offenses.

A kiosk has been installed in the lobby of the Pennsauken Township Police Department to help community members report minor offenses.

Once the reports are submitted, they will be routed to a supervisory officer for review.

The information desk will still be staffed 24 hours a day 7 days a week by department staff. This kiosk is in addition to the Police's current staffing of the information desk, and installed in an effort to provide a greater level of service to the members of our community.

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## GRAYMATTERS A Fan Of Country Music With Tie-Dye T-Shirts

By Judith Kristen,  
AAP Columnist

Happy August to you!

I think I've written everything under the sun that I could lawfully write about here in my column, except for one thing: country music.

Now I understand many of you don't see me as a country music kinda gal, considering I cut school to see The Beatles land at Kennedy Airport when I was 15; I was at Woodstock when I was 21; then there was Bowie, Led Zeppelin, Chicago, Queen, U2... you get the drift. Add on to that, the 36 tie-dyed t-shirts up in my closet. Okay, 53 tie-dyed t-shirts. That should do in any semblance of my country-lovin' claims.

However... for the last 6 weeks, the epicenter of country music shifted from Nashville, to the 200 block of Center St. in Merchantville, courtesy of my friend, Jean Rowland, and director Ken Burns.

Certainly most of you know our own Jean Rowland, but for those of you not familiar with Mr. Burns, here goes: Ken is an American documentary filmmaker

largely known for his epic historical works, some of which include: "The Roosevelt's: An Intimate History," "The Civil War," "Hemingway," "The Vietnam War," and the one that brings me to this column in the first place, "Country Music."

This eight-part series first appeared on PBS back in September of 2019, and it gathered quite a large audience. Written by Dayton Duncan and narrated by Peter Coyote, it is a stunning, toe-tapping, and delightfully consuming story of our American roots in country music, from what was first labeled "hillbilly music" then onward to bluegrass, and then to rockabilly. Yes, that means Elvis and well beyond.

Music has always been the cure for what ails us, but never more so than our country music. The lyrics were about life:

the hard times, the good times, the "cheatin' heart" times, our love of country, honor, and just life itself. Not much in the sense of topics is missed all the way back in the early days of Jimmie Rogers in the 1920s and Maybelle Carter and Family, to Hank Williams, Flatt and Scruggs, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, and Dolly Parton, all the way up to Garth Brooks, Keith Urban, and Carrie Underwood, and so many, many more.

My favorite was the episode about Hank Williams Sr., known as The Hillbilly Shakespeare. Before Hank's untimely death at age 29, he was already one of the most influential singer/songwriters of the 20th century. If you're not familiar with him, then your ears deserve the enjoyable listen. In his short tenure

Hank recorded 35 singles that hit the top ten on the C&W charts, including 11 that reached number one.

Hank's life was filled with tremendous ups and downs, most of his own making, but he never failed to miss a lyric that told all of us about it. I loved that about him. His heart, broken, cheating, and otherwise, was an open book. Songs like: "Your Cheatin' Heart," "Lovesick Blues," "I Saw the Light," "Cold, Cold Heart," "Hey Good Lookin'," and "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" are still being recorded today by the famous and hope-to-be famous. Not a bad legacy for a young boy raised during The Great Depression.

Jean and I sat there tapping our feet the whole way through the series. Both of us very struck by Hank and his music as well as his life.

And, when the first of the mini-series was over, after two hours of intense watching, we were still wanting more! Folks, it was just that good.

In truth, if that initial part had been four hours long, I still would have been glued to my seat. Cross my tie-dyed heart.

Peace and Love and The Grand Ole Opry. And thank you, Jean!

Your friend,  
~Judy

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**Frank W. Miller**

Frank is one of our funeral attendants, and although he is not licensed & qualified to make funeral arrangements, embalm or conduct funerals, he is still a vital part of our CarusoCare team. Frank is married to Rita Lee (Reilly) and has three children, Sheila Lee (Steven), Stacie Lee (Carlos), and Jason (Jessica). Frank has eight beautiful grandchildren.

A resident of Pennsauken and a former officer with over 26 years' service with the Pennsauken Police Department, Frank has numerous awards for Valor and Outstanding achievement. Frank is also the past President of Garden State Lodge #3 of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Frank is a former United States Marine and served with the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968. He is a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8714 in Glendora, NJ.

Frank is presently employed with the Falco/Caruso & Leonard Funeral Homes with 7 years of service but has over 20 years experience as a funeral attendant. He is a graduate of Camden County College and holds an Associates Degree in Law Enforcement.

Frank is presently the President of the Camden County Emerald Society. His many charity contributions include the Annual Polar Bear Plunge, the Special Olympics, and the Camden County Emerald Society Pipes and Drums.

Frank presently attends St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church in Pennsauken and serves as an usher at the 9 AM Mass. His faith and his ties to the community are very important to him.

Frank also serves as a docent on the Battleship New Jersey and provides tours in the overnight encampment program for the kids and their families.



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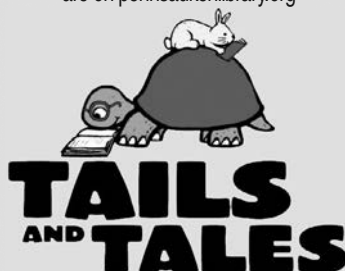
# inBooks

PENNSAUKEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Summer Reading August 2021

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All summer reading program details  
are on [pennsaukenlibrary.org](http://pennsaukenlibrary.org)



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Closed</b>	2 <b>Animal Crossing Open Play</b>	3 <b>Animal Tales Storytime Kidz &amp; Petz Kitchen</b>	4 <b>Maker Camp #3 Turtle Talk</b>	5 <b>Storytime in The Park</b>	6	7
8 <b>Library Closed Lemonade 4 Change</b>	9 <b>Staff Picks Live on Facebook</b>	10 <b>Animal Tales Storytime Crafty Critters</b>	11	12 <b>Chicken Storytime</b>	13	14 <b>End of Summer Reading Celebration</b>
15 <b>Closed</b>	16	17	<b>Thank you for participating in Summer Reading 2021!</b>			

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During library operating hours, patrons can speak with a librarian live online! Visit [pennsaukenlibrary.org](http://pennsaukenlibrary.org) and use the chat button on our webpage!

### Re-Opening Update

Good news! The Pennsauken Library building is open for all in-person services with expanded hours. We encourage you to limit your time in the building to one hour or less.

### FREE Virtual Services

((Details at [pennsaukenlibrary.org](http://pennsaukenlibrary.org))  
• Virtual Reference Service  
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### Lemonade4Change Fundraiser

Held Sunday, Aug. 8, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Library's parking lot. All proceeds will be used to enhance the diversity of the Library's collections.

### More On Mask-Wearing

The Pennsauken Free Public Library will continue to require staff and community members to wear masks and observe 6 feet of physical distance while inside the building.

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# inSports

## Pennsauken Is Open For Sports

By Billy Snyder, Athletic Director,  
Pennsauken Public Schools

During the summer, the Pennsauken High School campus was buzzing with student-athletes running, jumping, training, sweating, and having fun.

"Having kids back on campus, in the weight room, and in the Rick Taylor Field House was amazing. The energy, the laughter, just the atmosphere, you can't describe it," said Tom Connors, Pennsauken High School's athletic trainer for the past 32 years.

Pennsauken Athletic Department sponsored a strength and speed camp for both high school students and middle school students. There was also a pilot

program for youth camps with baseball leading the way. The baseball camp had 21 kids come out to learn from the Pennsauken varsity coaching staff and use all of the facilities.

Football was back on the field and Coach Tabb is very optimistic about the future.

"Right now, I have 21 freshmen. We haven't had that many freshmen this early in the summer in several years. We have enough players to get a freshman football schedule," says Tabb.

Other sports training and playing include field hockey, boys and girls soccer, cheerleading, boys and girls wrestling, and boys and girls basketball.



Pennsauken middle schoolers participate in the strength and speed camp, held at the Rick Taylor Field House.

## Free Pickleball Lessons

Come out to Pennsauken's pickleball courts for free lessons to learn this popular sport. Held on Fridays and Saturdays, 6:00 p.m., at the courts on 6170

River Rd., learn how to play this very popular sport that's fun for all ages!

For more information, call (609) 841-2749 or email pennspickleball@gmail.com.

## PHS Varsity Football Schedule For 2021-2022 Season

Friday, Aug. 20, 6:00 p.m.	Scrimmage vs. Woodrow Wilson	Home
Thursday, Aug. 26, 6:00 p.m.	Scrimmage vs. Paul VI	Away
Saturday, Sept. 4, 1:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Steinert – East	Away
Friday, Sept. 10, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Deptford Twp.	Home
Friday, Sept. 17, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Camden Catholic	Away
Friday, Sept. 24, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Moorestown	Home
Friday, Oct. 1, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Burlington Twp.	Home
Friday, Oct. 8, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Camden	Home
Friday, Oct. 15, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Highland Regional	Home
Friday, Oct. 22, 7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Timber Creek	Away

## PYAA SPORTS

## PYAA Looking For Volunteers

Pennsauken Youth Athletic Activities (PYAA) is accepting volunteers for the 2021 season. Meetings will be held every first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for Pennsauken residents at the PYAA Fieldhouse, 3501 Elm Ave. Come support the youth of Pennsauken, develop lasting relationships, and have fun!

Interested parties who have questions can email [admin@pyaa.net](mailto:admin@pyaa.net). For more information about the organization and its programs, visit [PYAA.net](http://PYAA.net).

## Online Registration Held For Intramural Soccer

Online registration for fall intramural soccer now runs through Sunday, Aug. 15.

Sponsored by the Pennsauken Youth Soccer Club, the intramural program is co-ed and open to children living in Pennsauken and Merchantville. Players are divided into teams by age group. Practices are typically an hour long, one night a week between Monday and Thursday. All intramural games are played on Friday night under the lights at our Pennsauken Soccer Complex at Westfield and Bethel avenues.

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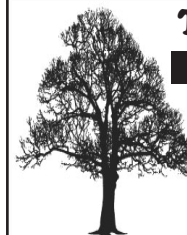
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# DECIDING ON PREPLANNING

Preplanning your funeral isn't just a good idea, it's something that benefits your entire family. It's a simple thing to do if you know who to talk to. Please send for this informative brochure to help answer any questions you may have. It's free and you'll learn why preplanning is for your family's sake.



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David L. Hernandez Jr., Owner, NJ Lic. No. 4626

Karen Lamb, Manager, NJ Lic. No. 5040

**Yes, I'd like more information on preplanning.**

(There is no cost or commitment.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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